THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) There is no proposal at present to privatise SAIL.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) Fertilizer plant of Rourkela Steel Plant continues to be part of SAIL. However, there is a plan to convert it into a Joint Venture.

Modernization Failure of Rourkela Steel Plant

2877. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rourkela Steel Plant is on the verge of collapse due to paucity of funds and losses accrued to it by the modernization failure;

(b) whether any special grant is being given to RSP to overcome its losses;

(c) what would be the future of workers if the plant faced a closure; and

(d) what forbids Government from taking action against the erring officials for loss in production due to failure in modernization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) There is no plan at present, to close RSP.

(d) SAIL has informed that the volume of production has been regulated due to depressed market conditions and not because of any failure in modernization.

Setting up of a Training institute under SDF

2878. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have granted Rs. 10 crore out of Steel Development Fund (SDF) for a training institute to be set-up in Orissa; and

(b) if so, whether SDF can be utilized for such purposes?